

MICHIGAN FARMER, AND WESTERN HORTICULTURIST.



"AGRICULTURE IS THE NOBLEST, AS IT IS THE MOST NATURAL PURSUIT OF MAN."

VOLUME II. >

JACKSON, JUNE 1, 1844.

< NUMBER 8.

THE MICHIGAN FARMER,
PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY,
(on the first and fifteenth of each month,) by
D. D. T. MOORE, Editor and Proprietor.

TERMS.

ONE DOLLAR PER ANNUM—IN ADVANCE.

The Farmer is offered to Agents and clubs at the following rates:—Six Copies for \$5; Ten copies for \$7; Fourteen copies for \$10; Twenty copies for \$15, and Thirty copies for \$20.—Subscriptions to commence at the beginning or middle of the volume, and no subscription received for less than six months.

All letters ordering the paper, &c. must be free or post-paid. Subscription money, if handed to a post master, can be forwarded free of expense, according to the decision of the P. M. General. Post-Masters, in Michigan and Indiana, are authorized and requested to act as agents for the Farmer.

For the Michigan Farmer.
Summer Fallows, &c.

BY J. A. SEVERANCE.

MR. EDITOR:—In no branch of agricultural pursuits are the farmers of the West more vitally interested than in the production of wheat; and on no point has their delinquency been more marked and general than in presenting through the proper medium the results of their experience and observation for the consideration and practice of others. As the time for plowing fallows designed for wheat has arrived, the general inattention of your correspondents to this subject has induced me to send you a few thoughts, hoping thereby to elicit the views of those whose continued experiments and accurate knowledge of cause and effect entitle their opinions to consideration and confidence.

The general practice of farmers is, to plow their fallows but twice. I cannot say but this is sufficient, having never pursued a different course to test the fact; but the first plowing, which is usually finished in July or August, should be done much earlier. We should commence plowing our wheat fallows immediately after finishing our spring's work—for the reason that we almost invariably have a severe drouth in July or August, which renders it impossible to plow to advantage. In consequence it is delayed from time to time, in hopes of rain, until almost seeding time, when it cannot be properly fitted—noxious weeds cannot be destroyed—and the result is, we shall receive a miserable apology for a crop. One great advantage in early plowing is, that we can plow deep, which preserves our crop from injury from drouth, and also allows the surplus moisture, if any, to pass off. We also expose a greater portion of soil to the disintegrating influence of the atmosphere, and render it permeable to heat and air, beside giving our crop a greater range from which to supply itself with those qualities necessary to its development and perfect maturity.

In preparing for wheat, or any crop, our farmers do not seem to be aware of the necessity of plowing well. Boys are not unfrequently put at this business, who have not the requisite strength or judgment to do it properly—the furrows commonly running in a zig-zag course, sometimes deep, and then shallow. Whereas, if we wish to plow to "thrive thereby," we should, in the first place, clear the ground of all impediments, such as grubs, large stone, &c. Then plow perfectly straight, the furrow slice of uniform width and depth, and if by any chance the plow is thrown out, back up and try it again, as no man should expect a good crop unless all the soil is well stirred and pulverized. After the first plowing, sheep enough should be kept on fallows to keep down every green thing, which effectually destroys the chess, and almost any thing else, (save sorrel,) which might prove deleterious to wheat. Keep your sheep on until you get ready to sow.

By personal inquiry I ascertained that the average yield of wheat, for the last crop, in this town, was 12½ bushels per acre. This result exhibits a strong proof of poor husbandry, as this is but little more than half what might be raised from the same number of acres, by correct management. This diminutive yield may be attributed to the following reasons:—Untimely and insufficient preparation of the soil, late sowing, foul seed, and last, though not least, putting crop after crop of wheat upon the same land in succession, without returning one hundredth part of what we removed—thus depriving our soil of those constituents which enter into the composition of wheat and its straw. According to Sir H. Davy, wheat may be reckoned among those crops which materially exhaust a soil; and a soil that will suffice for but one crop of wheat, will grow two of barley, and three of oats. By this process of continued cropping with wheat, some of the best lands in Virginia have become so completely exhausted that they must lie vacant a long series of years, in order to renovate them, and unless we adopt a judicious alternation of crops in Michigan, our lands will eventually be in the same condition.

In conclusion, I would say to our farmers, try clover with plaster upon your lands—keep more sheep, and in this way I believe we may not only preserve, but increase the fertility of our soil, and its adaptation to the growth of wheat. As we are advised by friend Doolittle to "time things right," I will defer some remarks, as to the proper time for seeding, &c., for a future number.

Truly yours, J. A. S.

Pulaski, May 22, 1844.

THE subject discussed in the foregoing communication, is an important one to the farmer. We think the suggestions of friend S. are judicious, and worthy of adoption in practice, by the agricultural reader.—Ed.

The Apricot.

The apricot is a low tree; of very irregular growth; the leaves are broad, roundish, pointed, glandular, serrated; their petioles tinged with red; the flowers are sessile, of a white color, tinged with red; they appear very early; the fruit is round, its color varying from white to yellow, and red; it somewhat resembles a peach, but its flesh is firmer; its hard, smooth, compressed stone resembles that of a plum.

As a dessert fruit, the apricot is estimated next to the peach; it is also estimated a most superior fruit, when used in pastry, for marmalade, jellies, and preserves; it is also stated to make a delicious liqueur. In France and Germany, according to Dr. Willich, the orange and the peach apricot is usually preserved in a dried state for winter, when they form a delicious ingredient in pies, tarts, &c. The Chinese, we are told, form lezzenges from the clarified juice, which, dissolved in water, yield a cool, refreshing beverage. Oil is also extracted from the kernel; and Loudon informs us, that the young shoots impart a fine golden-cinnamon color to wool.

The following comprises a description of the best sorts cultivated. There are but few distinct varieties of this fruit. The whole number of varieties cultivated in the garden of the London Horticultural Society, is but fourteen.

Breda, yellow flesh, melting and vinous, with a sweet kernel.

Moor park, extraordinarily productive, bright yellow, with small dark spots next the sun; flesh melting and excellent.

Musch, from Turkey, round, deep yellow, flesh fine and agreeable, and so transparent, that the stone is visible through the flesh.

Orange, large and round, with a sweet kernel, and richly flavored flesh. In Germany and France the flesh of this and the peach apricot is dried and used in pastry, for which it is very rich.

Peach apricot, very large, fawn color, with melting flesh, and abundant, peculiar, high-flavored juice. One of the best apricots cultivated. Ripens in June:—*Cincinnati Atlas*.

To MAKE WATER COLD.—The following is a simple mode of rendering water almost as cold as ice:—Let the jar, pitcher, or vessel used for water be surrounded with one or more folds of coarse cotton, to be constantly wet. The evaporation of the water will carry off the heat from the inside and reduce it to a freezing point. In India and other tropical regions where ice cannot be procured, this is common. Let every mechanic or laborer have at his place of employment two pitchers thus provided, and with lids or covers; the one to contain water for drinking, the other for evaporation, and he can always have a supply of cold water in warm weather. Any person can test this by dipping a finger in water, and holding it in the air of a warm day; after doing this three or four times, he will find his finger uncomfortably cold.

PRODUCTS OF PREMIUM Cows.—E. T. Forbes took the first premium at Westborough, Mass., for a cow of common breed, which fed on pasture feed only, gave an average of 10½ quarts per day in June last, and on trying her milk repeatedly, it was found to yield 2 lbs. of butter per day.

For the Michigan Farmer.
Culture of the Ruta Baga.

MR. MOORE:—As the season for sowing and planting spring crops is fast receding, and we must be looking ahead and making preparations for those things which time will soon bring along, perhaps a few lines upon the subject of growing Ruta Bagas, may be profitable to the readers of your valuable periodical.

My method of raising Ruta Bagas is as follows:—I select a good mellow piece of ground, as clear from weeds as possible; and plow twice. The first time, I plow the ground as soon as convenient after planting corn: the second time not until I get nearly ready to sow them. I sow them between the 20th of June and 1st of July. If they are sown too early, they are apt to rot before they are gathered—besides, they are liable to become pithy. In sowing I follow the harrow, and sow broad-cast, at the rate of about six ounces of seed to the acre.

In one of your papers, (volume 1, page 58,) I noticed an article, upon this subject, which says: “one pound of seed is about the right quantity to the acre.” This I consider an erroneous idea.—It not only wastes seed, but it wastes time in gathering the roots—for a load of large bagas can be gathered much quicker than a load of small ones. Six ounces of seed to the acre, I consider a great plenty: for if the ground is sufficiently rich, (as it should be,) the tops will about cover the ground.

Again, the article says: “the idea of sowing broad-cast is a bad one, as the seed cannot be scattered uniformly.” But I find no difficulty in sowing the seed even; and it is the quickest way the seed can be sown. And I prefer it to any other mode of sowing, except with the drill-barrow. Among root crops I consider the Ruta Bagas most profitable for keeping stock. They can be raised with less expense, and are least liable to be injured before they are gathered, as freezing in the ground does not injure them.—When gathered, they should be put in small heaps, of 20 or 30 bushels each; then covered with straw, and then with about six inches of dirt.

Yours, PAUL S. RICHARDS.
Leoni, Mich., May, 1844.

REMARKS.—We publish the above article more for the purpose of calling the attention of our readers to, and eliciting the views of correspondents upon the subject, than for the value of its statements. It contains some good ideas relative to the management of the crop—but we do not believe the writers mode of sowing is the best, although the most expeditious.—We think that the seed of the Ruta Baga should be sown in drills, sufficiently far apart to admit of after culture—say 18 to 30 inches. On this point, as well as others, we fully agree with “J. A. S.” whose comprehensive essay upon the culture of the crop may be found on page 58, vol. 1.

As to the quantity of seed per acre, we think much depends upon the richness of the soil and the quality of seed sown. We invite correspondents to give us their views upon this and other points touching the culture of the crop in Michigan.—ED.

RUTA BAGA, SUGAR BEETS, AND CARROTS.—We have had frequent inquiries as to the quantity of seed per acre for Ruta Baga, Beets and Carrots. The usual quantity for Ruta Baga, is from one pound to one and a half; Sugar Beets and Mangold Wurtzel, from two to four pounds; Carrots, two pounds.—Central New York Farmer.

Roots vs. Hay.

We take the following from a report made to the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, by the Messrs. Colt, of Pittsfield, Berkshire County.—The writer says:

“My stock now consists of 1000 sheep, 3 young oxen, 6 cows, and 3 horses. I have raised this season for the use of my stock, 5544 bushels of vegetables, all to be cut and fed out with cut straw. As to the respective value of the vegetable food, the following statement, will, perhaps, best exhibit it.

“I have commenced feeding, and shall continue to feed, 14 head of horned cattle with 20 lbs. of cut straw each per day, 4 cts. for each 20 lbs., 56 cts. Also to each, 8 lbs. of roots grated, mixed with cut straw, 3 cents—42 cts. And now allow 150 days for the season of feeding, at 98 cts., is \$147. The same stock would require 10 lbs. of hay each per day for 150 days; they would consume 42,000 lbs., equal to 21 tons; at the moderate price of 10 per ton, \$210. Balance in favor of root feed, \$63, and I am sure the stock will appear far better at the opening of the spring.

“You will perceive that the respective value of vegetables for food is six cents a bushel, while hay is at ten, and straw at four. It may be said that there is some cost in preparing the vegetable food, but this is more than compensated, if properly done, by the extra quantities of manure made.”

Thus it appears that 20 lbs. of straw and 3 lbs. of roots mixed, are more valuable than 20 lbs. of good hay, while the actual cost is much less. Fourteen tons of roots are a moderate crop per acre, while the average of hay will fall considerably below two tons to the acre. The advantage in favor of the turnip is thus perfectly apparent, and the farmer who persists in mowing his twenty or forty acres, which would furnish roots sufficient, if mixed with the straw which might be grown on the remainder, to keep his animals far better than the hay, and leave the grain crop nearly a clear profit, is clearly acting against his true interests. Again we say to our farmers, you did well last year by so extensively entering upon the culture of roots; you will do better this year by greatly extending their cultivation.

The Way to Settle Difficulties.

Two neighbors (who were brothers by marriage) had a difficulty respecting their partition fences. Although they had mutually erected a substantial fence four and a half feet in height on the line separating the sheep pasture of one from the grain field of the other, yet the lambs would creep through the crevices and destroy the grain.

Each asserted it to be the duty of the other to chink the fence. After the usual preliminaries of demands, refusals, threats, challenges, and mutual recrimination, they resolved to try the glorious uncertainty of the law. They were, however, persuaded by their friends, to the more amicable mode of submitting the difference to the final determination of a very worthy and intelligent neighbor, who was forthwith conducted to the scene of trouble, and in full view of the premises; each party in turn, in a speech of some length, asserted his right, and set forth the law and the facts; at the conclusion of which, the arbitrator very gravely remarked:

“Gentlemen, the case involves questions of great nicety and importance, not only to the parties interested, but to the community at large, and it is my desire to take suitable deliberation, and also for advisement with those who are learned in the law, and most expert in the customs of good neighbors; in the meantime, however, I will just clap a billet or two of wood into the sheep holes.” And in ten minutes’ time, with his hands, he effectually closed every gap.

The parties silently retired, each evidently heartily ashamed of his own folly and obstinacy.

“In every hill of cucumbers, squashes, and melons, set out one or two old onions. This is said to be an infallible remedy for the yellow bug.—Try it.” So says the Maine Cultivator.

Green Crops.

We have an enquiry as to sowing oats in the spring for a green crop to plough under the 1st of June, as a preparation of the land for a crop of corn fodder. In answer, we would remark that on warm soils and in forward springs, by sowing early, a crop of oats might be grown by the 1st of June that would pay the expense, but as our seasons generally are, it would not be an object, worth attending to.

Buckwheat grows in less time than oats, but early in the spring it will not grow well excepting on very dry, warm soils, unless the weather be unusually favorable. Winter rye is the best crop to plough in the 1st of June, preparatory to raising a crop of corn for grain, by planting an early kind, or a crop for fodder, by using a late, luxuriant kind, or for the purpose of raising a crop of ruta bagas.

In many cases, by planning the business in season, the rye may be sown in September, the earlier in the month the better, and if it succeed well, it will furnish a good green crop, in season for the other crops which we have named.

If a farmer has not a plenty of manure, the cheapest way of improving his light lands, is by green crops. A system may be pursued by which one crop may be turned in for manure, and another taken off for profit. In some cases the green crop will succeed the other. In this way, corn, and the small grains may be raised, also potatoes and other roots, and hay, beans and peas, and various kinds of vegetables, making a seven, eight, or nine years’ rotation; or a course of three, four, or five, having each year such crops as most resemble each other. For instance, corn one, potatoes or other tuberous roots, or bulbous roots, as turnips, which feed near the surface, another year; then small grains, to be succeeded by tap roots, such as beets, carrots and parsnips, that draw their food from a greater depth in the soil; then grass, and the next year peas and beans, making a six years’ rotation, or the course might be limited to two, three, or four years, giving a preference to such crops as would be most profitable.

This system is practicable, and with the present improvements in agricultural implements, light lands may be worked at small expense, and much improved by the green crop, and the manure made from the other crops, such as hay, roots, &c., that may be used, all or in part on the farm. To accomplish this, rye must be sown for a green crop to turn in preparatory to planting or sowing in June, at another time we may point out precisely how this system may be carried out, naming definitely the crops, and the time of sowing, planting, harvesting, or ploughing in.—Boston Cultivator.

Fruit.

It is matter of surprise to witness the indifference manifested by many farmers on the subject of fruit, while in other respects their farms were well managed; an acquaintance somewhat advanced in life was asked, why he did not plant more fruit trees? The answer was, he had enough to answer his purposes, and the young folks must do as he had done, and look out for themselves. This is a false principle—an immorality: it is a violation of the golden rule: it is not “doing unto others as we would that they should do unto us.” If our predecessors had transmitted enjoyments to us, we should do the same to those who come after us. Not only those who are engaged largely in farming, are negligent in this respect, but what is more surprising, those who possess small lots of land are too prone to follow the example of the farmer. Every one who has a small plot, can plant a few trees, and in a short time, he may eat the fruit of his own labor.

In regard to the varieties of fruit most advisable to cultivate, farmers must be governed by circumstances. The most important is the apple, and those residing at a distance from market, should cultivate the winter fruit; while those living near, might find it more profitable to cultivate such fruit as was from time to time maturing through the season.—New England Far-

Use Of Salt or Brine.

Mr. J. A. Kenrick, of the Newtown Nurseries, near Boston, in the Magazine of Horticulture for April, states that, until recently, all his plums had been destroyed by the curculio, and after trying various experiments, he almost despaired of finding any remedy; "but having heard salt recommended, I concluded to make a trial of salt lye, having a quantity at command. The yard contains about one-eighth of an acre, in which I have about a hundred trees. In the spring I had about two cords of meadow mud, well saturated with lye, evenly spread and spaded in. (The year previous the same quantity of dock mud, was applied in the same way.) About the first of June I put on a load of about five hogsheads in addition, pouring it from a large watering-pot, about two common-sized pailsful to each tree, saturating the whole ground in the yard; and so powerful was the application that there was not a weed to be found the height of two inches during the season—every tree bore well, and many of them were so completely loaded with fruit that I was obliged to stake them to prevent their breaking down."

Bees.

Bee hives frequently become foul, from dead bees and the perspiration from the bees, which afflicts the health of the whole swarm, and makes them dull and sluggish. In the spring, the bottom board should be thoroughly cleansed and whitewashed, and the lower edges of the hive should be whitewashed and the inside of the hive up to the comb, and the same operation on the outside of the hive will be useful in promoting the health of bees, protecting the hive against the rain and hot sun, and in filling up all cracks and depriving the moths of any good place for laying their eggs.

We have practised mixing fine salt with the whitewash, plentifully, even more than will dissolve, and both the lime and salt appear to be grateful to the bees, which often eat it freely.—With this course some sluggish swarms will immediately become active. In whitewashing our hives several times in a year, using salt freely, we have never been troubled with the bee-moth, though most always keeping bees, and a part of the time in sections of the country where the moth has generally been very destructive.

We cannot say positively that lime and salt will prevent the operation of moths, but if properly attended to, and every crack and crevice about the hive, the lower edge, inside, and bottom board be well covered with white-wash, we have no doubt that it will greatly impede if not wholly prevent the destructive effects of moths.

—*Boston Cultivator.*

HORSE AMERICAN ECLIPSE.—The Frankport, Kentucky "Commonwealth," contains a challenge from George E. Blackburn, a part of which follows:

"I have at my stable *American Eclipse*, the great father of race-horses, and himself the victor of the Western World. He is now thirty years old. I will give the owners of fine stallions an opportunity of comparing their horses with him on the third Monday of February, at Frankport. We are afraid but few will *dare* appear when we make it known that the old horse is in the full vigor of his youth, and as gay and active as when the bugle's blast first called him to the field of his victory and his fame. He is a living monument of the inefficiency of time's attacks."

CHURCH NOSEGAY.—The following curious custom exists on the Elbe. The peasantry who possess a bit of land, however small, never enter the church without a nosegay in their hands. They thus show that they claim the consideration due to persons who possess some property in the parish. Among the country people in the neighborhood of Hamburg there is no garden so small as not to possess a place for the flowers intended for this use, and the plant is distinguished by the name of the "Church Nosegay."—*Magazin Universal.*

Accidents and Observations.

Some years ago I sowed about half an acre of wheat near my barn; my neighbors' hens came on it and began their scratching, and as I did not want to quarrel with my neighbors I let them scratch. But in despite of biddy's scratching (for they scratch the piece nearly all over) the wheat came up well and grew thick and even, and at harvest time I had some over eighteen bushels.

Last year I sowed half of a bushel of wheat on a part of the same ground above mentioned, and my hens, and those of others, immediately went to work and scratched it nearly or quite over; they followed their business daily for some time, but the wheat came up thick and grew well, and I had a good crop for any year, considering how much the apple trees shaded it.

I sowed about four bushels of wheat besides, on ground nearly or quite as favorable for a crop; it came up well, but soon after the worms and fly destroyed it so that I had more from the half bushel where the hens scratched it over than I had from all the remainder.

So is it not a fact that hens save more spires of wheat by destroying worms and grubs than they destroy by picking up the grain? for all they get is that which is so near the top of the ground, that if it ever comes up it is so near the surface that when dry weather comes the roots (for grain roots are all lateral,) dry up, and even I have seen the grain itself shriveled and dry, and perhaps the next day, after a shower, the same kernel was swollen as though it was ready to burst, and the roots were in a similar condition.

Now such wheat is always troubled with the yellows; whether the yellow jaundice or the yellows from dyspepsy, brought on by abstinence and engorgement, I will not say; but as you are a doctor, I will leave it for you to decide.

Some years ago a minister came to Milnot on a visit to his father; his horse was sick, so that he offered to sell him for a trifling, but his father advised him not to do so for he had a remedy that he thought would cure him. The old gentlemen put up the horse and gave his remedy, which was *Persicaria non maculata*, water-pepper or smart weed, dried. The next morning a large quantity of borts lay behind the horse, and he appeared well and remained so. This winter Mr. S., of P., was getting some lumber near a brook some distance from home, and hitched his horse by some alders, the horse browsed all he could reach and a large quantity of borts came from him. Perhaps the above may be of use to some one; if it is they are welcome; but if they use either of the remedies, use them liberally. J. L.—*Maine Farmer.*

Cleanliness.

A strict attention to cleanliness and sweetness in our persons, houses, door-yards, clothes, and furniture, not only produce a pleasing sensation to ourselves and all around us, but is also a means of preserving our health. Loathsome and even noxious vapors are often generated around dwellings, causing sickness, and perhaps death, for want of a strict attention to cleanliness. All slops and washes should be carefully conveyed into the garden, or thrown upon the manure heap, and never suffered to be merely thrown out at the door, to the annoyance of the family and their visiting friends, and not unlikely to the lasting injury of their health. Pure water is sought by all as conducive to health; but air, on which our vitals are constantly feeding, is really too much neglected.—*Selected.*

Timber on the Prairies.

It is a great object with the farmer on the prairies, to turn his attention as early as practicable, to the cultivation of timber on his own land. The locust is thought to be among the most valuable for this purpose, both on account of its rapid growth and durability. Abram Smith, a writer in the Prairie Farmer, says that he believes no kind of timber will produce as many, or as durable rails in the same number of years, on the same number of acres, as the *locust*. The seed should be scalded before they are planted. In planting, he says "Drill them in a shallow furrow and cover with a plough—if in June, about two inches deep, if earlier, cover shallower, if later, cover deeper. As to the width between rows, I think the best I have seen are about ten or twelve feet apart. Cultivate potatoes, corn or tobacco between for two years; then sow oats for the third year—let the hogs harvest it, and leave the straw on, which will be a great help to the trees. The fourth year you may cut several hundred stakes from each acre; the fifth year you may cut five hundred (pole) rails from each acre, and the same number each year forever thereafter. And if you have planted your timber exactly where you want it, I presume you will not find fault with it for 'forever throwing up shoots,' or because 'it can never be exterminated.'—*Selected.*

HISTORY OF THE MERCER POTATOE.—That variety of the potatoe known in some sections of the country as the Chenango or Philadelphia, in others as the Mercer, in others still, as the "Mechanic," (corrupted from Neshanoc,) has perhaps been more generally cultivated for several years past than any other kind. The Farmer's Cabinet gives the history of this potatoe, which is substantially as follows: In the year 1772, a family of the name of Gilkey, came from the county of Derry, in Ireland, and settled in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania. In Nov. 1797, two members of this family, John and James Gilkey, removed to Mercer county, Pa., and settled about 2 miles east of Neshanoc creek. In 1801 or 1802, John Gilkey planted a quantity of potatoe-balls (or seeds,) from red, blue, white and other varieties of potatoes. From the potatoes produced from these balls, Mr. Gilkey selected the variety above named. They were soon after cultivated and brought into notice near Philadelphia, and from thence have been disseminated over the whole country.—This history was written by James Gilkey, brother of John, who produced the potatoes. In an account of the origin of this potatoe published a few years ago, it is stated that John Gilkey was educated for a Catholic priest and that he was an exile from the Emerald isle, &c., which his brother says is incorrect.

STATISTICAL.—The following statement shows the quantity of each kind of grain produced in the United States in the year 1839.

Wheat,	34,823,272
Barley,	4,161,514
Oats,	123,071,341
Rye,	13,645,567
Buckwheat,	7,291,743
Indian Corn,	377,531,875

Total, 605,525,302

The number of bushels of Potatoes raised the same year was 103,293,060.

If the increase of grain in five years has been 25 per cent, the quantity in 1844 should be 756,906,697 bushels; and of potatoes 153,372,695 bushels. Twenty-five per cent is a low estimate in the increase.

MICHIGAN FARMER.

JACKSON: JUNE 1, 1844.

Editorial Notices.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—The communication of I. B. L., relative to Insects in Wheat, was received too late for insertion in this number. It shall appear in our next; and, in the meantime, we hope to receive the opinions of others upon the same subject.

Thanks to 'PAULINE.' Her beautiful stanzas, in truthful praise of Rural Life, shall receive an early insertion.

What has become of 'G. W. L.' of Livingston, and a score of other correspondents from whom we have received no 'documents' of late? Have they forgotten our address—or are they too busily engaged in other pursuits to find leisure to write for the Farmer? Grateful for past favors, we solicit further essays from those who have heretofore enhanced the value of the Farmer, by their contributions to its pages. We also again cordially invite others to communicate the results of their observation and experience for publication in this journal. We doubt not that there are hundreds of experienced farmers, among our patrons, each one of whom might, by a compliance with our invitation, benefit their fellow men and essentially aid in advancing the cause of improvement.

"EVERY MAN HIS OWN CATTLE DOCTOR; containing the causes, symptoms, and treatment of all the diseases incident to Oxen, Sheep and Swine; and a sketch of the anatomy and physiology of neat cattle, by Francis Clater. Edited, revised, and almost re-written, by William Youatt, author of 'The Horse,' &c., with numerous additions, embracing an Essay on the use of Oxen, and the improvement in the breed of Sheep, &c., by J. S. Skinner, Assistant Post-master General; with numerous cuts and illustrations."

We are indebted to its American editor, J. S. Skinner, Esq., for a copy of the above entitled work, recently issued from the press of Lea & Blanchard, Philadelphia. From an examination of its contents, we are of opinion that it will prove eminently useful to every agriculturist by whom it may be obtained—and we wish it were placed within the reach of all.— Its comprehensive title exhibits what kind of matter the work contains, and the names of its authors are alone good proof of the correctness and ability with which it has been compiled. The diseases incident to horned cattle, sheep, and swine, are judiciously delineated, and clearly pointed out. The Essays on the use of Oxen, and the improvement of Sheep, &c., by Mr. Skinner, are alone worth double the price of the book, to any of our western farmers. The work contains 250 pages, duodecimo—illustrated, and nearly printed. Price, 50 cents.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.—Our thanks are due to Gen. LEWIS CASS, for a package of Seeds, containing several varieties never before introduced into this section of the West. We cheerfully comply with the request of Gen. C., by distributing the Seeds where they will be most useful.

A WORD TO FRIENDS.—It is said, in the language of a common adage, that "there is no use in having friends unless you can use them"—and necessity compels us to adopt the sentiment. Although we have added some five hundred names to our subscription list, since the commencement of the 2d volume of the Farmer, the expenses of its publication are such that we find ourselves somewhat embarrassed. We would therefore inform those of our subscribers who have not sent in their subscriptions, that a compliance with our terms, by each and all of them, will essentially aid us at the present time. We earnestly request our friends at a distance to bear this in mind. Post-masters are authorised to transmit newspaper subscriptions free of postage—and from their courtesy we doubt not they will cheerfully oblige our friends in this matter.

The Wheat Crop.

The fears which we expressed, in our last paper, relative to injury of this crop by insects, are partially if not fully confirmed. We learn from different and distant parts of the State, that the Hessian Fly has seriously injured the crop—in some places destroying entire fields. In some parts of this county (which we have visited during the past week,) the crop has been almost wholly destroyed—in other parts, some fields seriously and others but slightly damaged—while in other sections, the wheat fields look fine and promise at least an average yield. The ravages of the insect are not universal throughout the county, and the same is true in other counties where it has appeared.— Aside from the intelligence given below, we have only verbal statements from distant sections, and cannot therefore now give an opinion as to the extent of the injury experienced.

The Centreville (St. Joseph county) Republican says:

HESSIAN FLY.—This insect enemy of wheat has at last found its way to this county, and is fast destroying the wheat crop.

The wheat in some of the fields is entirely destroyed, and in many others, portions of it is dead and dying. Some of our farmers have plowed under their wheat in consequence of the injury to it by this insect, and others fear that they shall not be able to get back their seed. It is said that in some neighborhoods the crop is half destroyed.

We would suggest to the farmers the propriety of forming an Agricultural Association. The benefits of such an association are obviously of the highest character. It might afford to the citizens of the community a knowledge of the experience of *all* in the community, and the fruits of the experience and researches of such as have made farming their particular care and study in other communities.

The Commercial Bulletin, published at St. Joseph, Berrien county, contains the following:

WHEAT CROP—Hessian Fly.—It is with deep regret that we learn from various parts of this and the adjoining counties that the wheat crop is suffering from the ravages of the fly. In many instances whole fields of wheat have been destroyed, and the ground ploughed up for other crops. The prospect ahead for our farming community is, indeed, gloomy; but a few days since a more thriving lot of wheat fields could not be found than the valley of the St. Joseph presented—now, the "sere and yellow leaf" is seen on almost every farm.

The following is an extract, says the Philadelphia Chronicle, from a letter dated near Newton, Bucks Co., Pa., May 15, 1844:

"The fly is in the wheat all round this part of the country. The crop will be a complete failure. E— brought in some stocks to show us, and under the leaf nearest the ground, close to the joint, we could count about twenty little white worms, like small maggots, which eat the stalk right off."

WHEAT IN THE MIAMI VALLEY.—Speaking of the wheat crop in Southern Ohio, the Cincinnati Gazette says:

Generally, the wheat crop looks healthy, and is of most luxuriant growth. In the Great Miami Valley, we are informed, this is particularly the case, and similar statements have been published respecting the Mad River country. We learn from a gentleman from Middletown, well informed in all such matters, that in the large rich farms of Butler county, about one-third more wheat was put in last fall than the year before—and this without at all trenching upon the strong corn lands of the bottoms, which will be given as usual to the production of food for pork. The wheat looks extremely well, and is as yet free from every manner of disease or vermin.

Michigan.

Hon. H. L. ELLSWORTH, Commissioner of Patents, in his report made to Congress in January last, estimates the present population of Michigan at

284,395

212,267

Population in 1840,

72,123

Showing an increase of 72,123 a number sufficiently large to entitle the State to an additional member of Congress. Mr. Ellsworth also makes an estimate of the amount of produce raised in Michigan in the year 1843. It is but an estimate, it is true, but Mr. E.'s means of information are so extended, that his calculations are relied upon as being remarkably correct. If he is at fault in any respect, it is in making his estimates too low. We subjoin in the first column the estimate of the crops of 1843, and in the second column the amount produced as per census returns of 1840:

	1843.	1840.
Wheat, bushels,	5,296,271	2,157,108
Barley, "	113,757	127,802
Oats, "	3,10,716	2,114,051
Rye, "	64,195	34,236
Buckwheat, bushels,	167,212	11,592
Indian Corn, "	3,592,482	2,277,039
Potatoes, "	4,465,871	2,103,205
Hay, tons,	223,572	130,505
Flax and Hemp, tons,	1,280	755
Tobacco, pounds,	3,187	1,602
Silk,	1,395	266
Sugar, "	1,307,629	1,329,754
Total,	18,477,867	10,396,245
Increase,		8,081,623

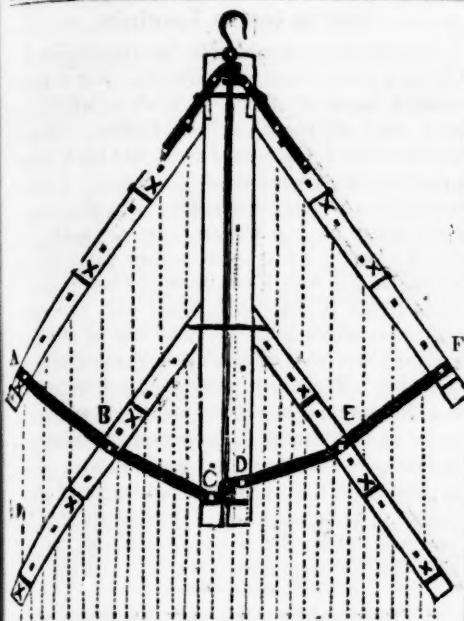
This exhibits an increase in all the productions named of more than 80 cent.; and in the article of wheat, the staple product of the State, of more than 120 per cent., in three years! In 1840 the amount of wheat raised to each inhabitant of the state exceeded a very trifling ten bushels. In 1843, by reference to the tables above, it will be seen that the quantity produced exceeded eighteen and a half bushels to each inhabitant. This places Michigan greatly ahead of any other State in wheat growing. Ohio, which stands next to us in the production of this article, shows a yield in 1843 of a trifling less than eleven bushels to each inhabitant, and in 1840 of a trifling over ten bushels—but a very slight increase. So that Michigan raises about eight bushels to each individual more than any other State in the Union! This tells well for the youngest member of the confederacy.

Immigration into our State the present season has thus far been beyond precedent. The inducements offered to settlers are unequalled by those of any other state or territory. The rich state lands, which can be obtained at \$1.25 per acre, and paid for in any kind of State indebtedness, present an almost unbounded field for choice of location. Taxes—Michigan has been much misrepresented in this respect—are low, the State tax the present year being only 2 mills on the dollar. The county, town, and other taxes, vary according to circumstances, but as these are under the immediate control of the people, only such amounts are raised as are actually required by their wants. The state has a well regulated and adequate school fund, the avails of which are annually distributed to the towns, ensuring the children of settlers every facility for education.

We might proceed and detail a thousand advantages that Michigan presents to immigrants. When we commenced, we did not intend to touch this branch of the subject at all; but we shall take an early opportunity to gather facts and exhibit them to the world.—*Jackson Patriot.*

PRairie Rose for Hedges.—'Hovey's Horticultural Magazine proposes to use the Prairie Rose for making live fences. It is the common running wild Rose of the West, known in different localities as the Michigan, Detroit and Tennessee Rose. It is of rapid growth, a great climber—and flowers in immense clusters, where the soil is rich. The color of the rose changes after the first day's bloom. It is filled with strong thorns.'

We copy the above from an eastern paper, and are inclined to think the suggestion may prove valuable to farmers residing in sections where fence-timber is scarce. Can any of our correspondents furnish information, founded in experience or observation, upon the subject? If our native wild rose is suitable for hedges, it will certainly prove more valuable than any of the foreign plants now used for that purpose, as it is adapted to our soil and climate, and would not be injured by the severity of the seasons.



MR. GEDDES' HARROW.—(Fig. 1.)

(Scale, half an inch to the foot.)

We are indebted to GEORGE GEDDES, Esq., of Onondaga county, for the drawing from which the above engraving was made, as well as for the annexed description of the Harrow, invented by him some years since, and which has been extensively used in that part of the state, and found superior to any other known there. With the aid of the description and drawing, our readers in any part of the country will be able to get them for their own use, as there is no patent for it.—*Albany Cultivator.*

DESCRIPTION.—Timber, three inches square.

The side pieces should enter the center pieces, so that the acute angle will contain thirty-five degrees. Or the bevel may be found by laying a carpenter's square on a board, and measuring on one side of the corner three inches, and on the other two inches and one-twelfth of an inch; a line drawn through these points will make a triangle, having the smaller angle, that is the angle at the point where the three inches reached,—the angle required.

The tenons should enter the center pieces only one inch, the mortice and tenon being cut square with the center pieces, as shown in the engraving. If this joint is well made, the bolt passing through both sticks will keep the timber in place perfectly. The side pieces have each three bolts, A. X. X. passing through the middle, to prevent their splitting. The back hinge is made of Swede's iron, bolted at A. B. C. D. E. F., on the timber with half inch bolts. These bolts should be well made, and have large heads on the lower end, as if any thing breaks, it will probably be these bolts.

The forward hinge is made of Swede's iron, and bolted on the top of the timber, with three bolts in each side of the hinge.

The hook plays freely in an eye on the end of a rod, made of round iron, five-eighths of an inch in diameter, which runs through both hinges; having a washer, and spring key, behind the back hinge. The eyes in the hinges should be the thickness of the iron above the timber, consequently the rod running through the eyes will be that much above the timber.

The hinges should be four and a half feet part, from center to center.

The center pieces are one inch apart.

Fig. 2, represents the bolts that pass through the joints of the center and side pieces. The heads on these bolts are half an inch thick, and being exactly opposite each other they come together when the harrow is flat on top. These heads and the plates under the nuts are one inch long, and are turned a little at the ends, so as to grasp the timber, and keep it from splitting.

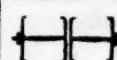


Fig. 3, represents the two bolts that pass through the center pieces, behind the back hinge, with the heads, plates and nuts.

The side pieces should be twelve or thirteen inches apart in the clear, measuring square across.

The four teeth in the center pieces require to be made straight on one side, instead of having the point in the center, as their places are near the sides of the timber.

The teeth should be seven-eighths of an inch square.

This drawing of my harrow, shows all the improvements in its construction that have been made since you published the engraving in 1836.

I have attempted to show every thing in this drawing, and to give so minute a description that any common mechanic shall be able to construct a harrow without making mistakes.

A harrow having thirty teeth passing within two inches of each other, from center to center, is just what is wanted on ground under good cultivation. On land just cleared, the teeth should be further apart, perhaps four inches.

The advantages that my harrow possesses over the hinged square harrow, are very great. It draws easier. One reason for this is, that the line of draft passes through the middle of the harrow, having just as much weight, and just as many teeth, (and they equi-distant therefrom,) on each side; consequently, the harrow on an even surface, moves straight forward, without producing any vibrating of the whiffletraces, as the square harrow does.

Another advantage is, it is easily cleared of foul stuff. The driver, without stopping his team, lifts up one side, and the stone or stick falls out.

The teeth track better, and instead of leaving a few large marks on mellow ground, it leaves thirty small marks.

It is stronger, and when broken is easier repaired than any other harrow.

It is cheaper than a well made thirty tooth square harrow, and the expensive part, (hinges, rods, and bolts,) will last a very long time. The cost of one of my harrows, made of the very best of timber, the teeth all steel pointed, and the whole painted twice is twelve dollars.*

I request any person that may attempt to construct a harrow from my plate and description, to follow the directions exactly. If it should be supposed that improvements can be made, I beg that first an experiment be made after my directions—then improve, and if the improvement is not found to be backwards, give it to the public.

I have been using this harrow eleven years.—Since you published the engraving in 1836, which showed the principles involved, I have made great improvements in the manner of putting it together; but all the attempts to alter it fundamentally, have so far as I have learned been failures, and sometimes the experimenter has laid his to somebody besides himself.

My only wish now, in relation to this harrow, is, that it may be made correctly; that this may be done, I have prepared the drawing. I have no fears but that it will prove to be better than any other now in use, if fairly tested.

GEO. GEDDES.

Tyler, N. Y., Nov. 30, 1843.

* As it may be inferred by some unacquainted that Mr. Geddes makes the harrows here described, or is interested in their construction we deem it proper here to state that such is not the case, that in giving this harrow to the public, the only solicitude he feels is that of the inventor.—[Eds. CULT.]

TABLE BUTTER.—Cist's Advertiser proposes to take butter in May or June, when it is in the highest state of perfection, and subject it to the process which lard goes through in the manufacture of oil. We all know that lard divested of elaine can be kept fresh and sweet any needed length of time. Both the lard and oil are improved in the process of separating one from the other. If butter be subject to hydraulic pressure, we shall then be able to expel from the mass the oil which renders it rancid, and the buttermilk which corrupts it; and there is no reason why the butter, when originally fresh and good should not remain so.—*Selected.*

A New Map of Michigan.

We have examined a new Map of this State, just published by JOHN FARMER, of this city, which far surpasses his former works, in elegance of execution, in correctness of delineation, and in minuteness of detail; this was expected, as he both compiled and engraved it on copper, himself.—Though ignorant of the art of engraving, yet with a zeal equalled only by his perseverance, has he labored without instruction for three years until he has successfully accomplished his design.

Though the Map is on a scale of twelve miles to an inch, yet it embraces and exhibits at one view all the information in the State Topographical Department, [and much more,] with the minuteness which characterizes the County Maps of the State by that Department.

It embraces not only the whole State, but includes the Northern part of Ohio and Indiana; and a tier of counties on the West side of the Lake in Illinois and Wisconsin, exhibiting the sections there with equal care, while it contains an excellent chart of Lake Michigan for the benefit of navigators. The Map is invaluable to the emigrant, or to the owner or speculator in wild lands, as it is a perfect guide even in the wilderness. He designs shortly to have them for sale in Pocket-book form. It costs only three dollars when painted, varnished, and mounted on Rollers, and should therefore be found in every house in the State, as without it one cannot readily become acquainted with the extent and resources of his own State, which already numbers seventy counties, of a majority of which many have heretofore remained ignorant for the actual want of such a work.—*Free Press.*

An Improvement.

MR. EZRA CORNELL, of Ithaca, New York, has invented a plow of great merit and much simplicity, for laying lead pipes in the earth by animal power, and without excavation by hand. The thickness of the share, made of cast iron, is in proportion to the size of the pipe to be laid; and, of course, it is moved through the earth with corresponding ease, causing but a narrow cut or crack in the earth, which readily closes as the machine advances; the pipe being disengaged from the drum or cylinder of the machine, on which it is coiled, is left at the bottom of the trench, or as deep in the ground as the machine gauged to run, by an adjustment of the wheels. The pipe of Professor Morse's Telegraph has been laid by it for the distance of ten miles. In illustration of the rapidity and success of its work, four hundred and fifty feet of pipe were laid, at the depth of twenty inches, and completely covered in the short time of five minutes, including one stop of nearly three minutes. It is estimated that three miles of pipe can be easily laid in a day with this machine, when the ground is free from obstruction, requiring a team of from two to four yoke of oxen or spans of horses, according to the nature of the soil, and depth at which the pipe is laid. It will prove important to the agriculturist, as it will afford facilities for irrigation or watering stock.—*Baltimore Sun.*

TO PROTECT VINES FROM BUGS.—A subscriber communicated to us a few days ago, a fact relative to the destruction of such bugs as winged insects as are injurious to cucumber and melon vines, &c. He has practised it for several years, and found it very effectual in protecting the plants from the destructive ravages of these insects. The method is as follows: Just at evening, he kindles a small fire, (or if the patch be large; several may be necessary,) that will blaze freely, in some convenient place, where it will not injure the plants. He then, by brushing the plants, alarms the bugs, so as to cause them to take wing, when they fly directly into the fire, and are destroyed.—*Western Far. & Gard.*

He who hath a trade hath an estate, and he who hath a calling hath a place of profit and honor. A ploughman standing on his legs is higher than a gentleman on his knees.

Mechanics' Department.

The Mechanic.

There is no dispute about it, many individuals look upon the mechanic as inferior to the trader, the merchant, the lawyer, the minister or the well dressed pauper. The women too, have caught the fever, and it is laughable to see the delicate creatures turn up their noses and curl their lips, when they are approached by a hard working honest man, dressed in his homespun, with brown hands and freckled face. But where would they be, were it not for the mechanic? They are dependent upon him for almost all they possess and enjoy,—and yet they pretend to despise him. Many a one who has thus looked with contempt upon the industrious, has in the end been made to acknowledge her error, and would have given worlds to receive the kind regards of him she once despised.

As a general thing, our mechanics are the most intelligent portion of our citizens and exert the greatest influence in our country.—Many of our best writers and lecturers belong to this class. Elihu Burritt, who was acquainted with more than fifty languages, is a blacksmith; Morris, of the *New Mirror*, is a printer; so also is Greeley, of the *New York Tribune*; Garrison, of the *Liberator*, is a priater; Whittemore, of the *Boston Trumpet*, is a shoemaker; our friend Saywood, of the *Bangor Whig*, we believe, is a blacksmith; Severence, of the *Augusta Journal*, and Wentworth of the *Chicago Democrat*, have recently been elected for Congress, are printers; Becket, of the *Bulletin*, and Holden, of the *Argus*, are printers; so also is Holden, of the *Saturday Courier*. A host of others, we have not time to mention who are exerting a wide influence, have graduated at the anvil, the work bench, the stand or the shoemaker's seat. Who would believe, then, there are those living who look with contempt upon the mechanic.

Among our female writers, there are very few who were the pampered daughters of wealth and luxury. Mrs. Sigourney was the daughter of a poor man, and supported herself many years by teaching school. Mrs. Welby, of Louisville, Ky., who writes such admirable poetry over the signature of Amelia, learned the trade of a milliner, and worked at the business till she found better employment in the married state; Mrs. Seba Smith was the daughter of a sea captain; Mrs. Ware, who recently died in Liverpool, a native of Boston, was the daughter of a poor man, and the wife of a sail-maker; Mrs. Hale taught school for several years for a support; Mrs. Stephen's parents were poor, and she is now the wife of a mechanic; and Miss Gould, of Newburyport, taught school for several years. So we might go on, and enumerate scores of talented women, who did not think it beneath their dignity to work or to unite their destinies with workingmen.

Those who unite bodily exercises with mental pursuits, are the happiest and healthiest of our citizens. They do the greatest amount of good, and exert the wisest and best influence. Laboring men are looking up—they are beginning to feel their own strength, and thousands are acknowledging their worth, who a dozen years since looked upon them with a suspicion and contempt. Let mechanics take courage and elevate themselves, and they will take that position in society to which they are justly entitled.—*Portland American.*

How Discoveries have been made.

Many of the most important discoveries in the field of science have been the result of accident. Two little boys of a spectacle maker in Holland, while their father was at dinner, chanced to look at a distant steeple, through two eye-glasses placed one before another. They found the steeple brought much nearer the shop window. They told their father on his return, and the circumstance led to a course of experiments, which ended in the telescope.

Some shipwrecked sailors once collected some seaweeds on the sand, and made a fire to warm their shivering fingers and cook their scanty meal. When the fire went out, they found that the alkali of the seaweed had combined with the sand, and formed glass—the basis of all our discoveries in astronomy, and absolutely necessary to our enjoyment.

In the days when every astrologer and every chemist was seeking after the philosopher's stone, some monks, carelessly making up their materials, by accident invented gunpowder, which has done so much to diminish the barbarities of war.

Sir Isaac Newton's most important discoveries, concerning light and gravitation, were the result of accident. His theory and experiments on light were suggested by the soap bubbles of a child; and on gravitation by the fall of an apple as he sat in the orchard. And it was hastily scratching on a stone a memorandum of some articles brought him by a wash-woman, that the idea of lithography first presented itself to the mind of Stenefelder.

MANUFACTURING ARTIFICIAL MARBLE.—The *Pittsburg Chronicle* says: An individual has a mode of manufacturing marble which is pronounced superior to any other artificial stone or marble in use, and will supersede the use of lime mortar in the varied processes of plastering, will be extensively used for stucco work, mosaic, statuary, mantelpieces, table slabs, atmospheric and hydraulic cement, roofing of houses, paving of streets, &c. It will set or harden in six hours when applied in plastering houses. It will resist the action of atmospheric heat, damp, frost, &c., and is susceptible of a high polish, and can be manufactured at a cost little exceeding ordinary lime mortar.

WONDERFUL DISCOVERY IN ENGRAVING!—In England, a wonderful invention has been made very recently, which, if fully borne out threatens to effect a thorough revolution in the world of Art. It consists of a mode by which engravings may be multiplied to infinity—the inventor requiring to use only the original **PRINT**, and not the **plate**! The editor of the *Art-Union*, after witnessing the process, expresses entire confidence in its success.

IMPRESSIONS.—An artist in Rome has discovered the method of fixing on the lithographic stone the images, &c., obtained by the Daguerreotype; so that a large number of impressions can be taken on the instant! The artist has presented to the Pope, proofs of several of the monuments of the Eternal City, taken by this process, which are said to be excellent.

He who thinks no man above him but for his virtue, and none below him but for his vice, can never be obsequious or assuming in the wrong place; but will frequently emulate men in stations below him, and pity those nominally over his head.

How to Acquire Knowledge.

Young men, would you be intelligent?—Carry a book about you *always*. Not a novel—but a work of utility—a work in which you may read of realities, not fiction. Would you be wise? Open and read that book whenever you have a moment of leisure. I recollect to have read an anecdote of a *shoemaker*, even after he worked as a journeyman, who always kept a book open before him, so that he might not lose a moment, but be preparing himself for future usefulness; and the result was, that he became not only one of the most *eminent*, but one of the most *useful* men of his day. Why, my young friend, may you not, by pursuing a similar course, also become eminent and useful to your country and your fellow men? Adopt the course, and give it a *fair* trial, and if you do not succeed to the extent of your ambition, I will guarantee that you will not be the worse mechanic, or citizen, for the experiment.—*Apprentice's Com.*

EXTRACT FROM AN ESSAY ON INDUSTRY.—This is a country which affords all the means, not only of subsistence, but of wealth. But means must be applied, or the end is not attained. Greater industry may be necessary here, than in some other climes; but this is no unhappiness. A people, that grow rich suddenly, and without much labor, soon become luxurious and effeminate. They presently sink again into poverty; and fall an easy prey to the first powerful invader, or ambitious usurper. A habit of industry is first acquired by necessity; and, once acquired, it may continue for a while, after the necessity abates, unless circumstances alter too suddenly. It strengthens the body, braces the mind, and aids other virtues. It gives patience in adversity, courage in danger, and perseverance in difficulty. No people ever maintained their liberty long, after they ceased to be industrious, and became dissolute and luxurious.

MORSE'S TELEGRAPH.—The Washington correspondent of the *Philadelphia Chronicle* says, Morse's magnetic electric telegraph is now being erected. The wires are conducted along the tops of posts running parallel with the railroad to Baltimore. Two miles of continuous lines of wires are now up. By means of this telegraph news may be conveyed in an instant to Baltimore along the wires. The telegraph will be in operation before the adjournment of Congress. Recent experiments upon the finished part leave no doubt of its complete success.

A STEAM-CARRIAGE has been invented in England, adapted in every respect for locomotion on common turnpike roads. It has already been run several thousand miles over the worst roads in England, ascending and descending the steepest hills, with facility and safety, and maintaining an average speed of fifteen miles an hour.—*Morning Chronicle.*

SLANDER.—No decent man can get along without it; at least, one who is actively engaged in the struggle of business life. Discharge a bad fellow who has been in your employment, and he goes round and slanders you. Let your conduct be such as to create the envy of another, and he villifies your name. In fine we would not give a cent for a man that is no slandered—it shows that he is either a milk sop or a ninny. No, no—earn a bad name from a bad fellow, (and you can easily do so by correct conduct,) and it is the only way to prove that you are entitled to a good one.

Ladies' Department.

For the Michigan Farmer.
To Farmers' Daughters.

DEAR GIRLS:—Believe me when I say that I love you—not because I want to marry you myself, but because I want those who do marry you to get “a fortune,”) that I *feel* interested in your welfare—in your future prosperity and happiness. Certainly, when I consider that the safety and prosperity of our beloved country is resting upon the shoulders of your sex*—that the patriotism and peace of all classes of our citizens is at your disposal, how can I but feel an interest, ay, a lively interest, in the course your inexperienced minds, or erring footsteps, may take?—I am well aware that you do not realize the extent of your responsibility as *livers* in America—that you do not consider the many *weighty* duties you are called upon and bound to discharge—that the instruments you can wield are ever effectual in the overthrow and extermination of that which destroys the pith of domestic and national peace and happiness.

With sorrow I confess, and am forced to acknowledge, that you have gone *far* astray from your original usefulness—that you have almost entirely departed from your former worth—and now are grovelling beneath your once ascribed dignity. I visit your homes and find you despisers of your domestic duties. Is this, indeed, true? In what respect? For several months I have been unable to catch a young lady over the wash tub. Is it because washing has been dispensed with? Certainly not; but it is because farmers' daughters have got above their business. This, my dear girls, you cannot deny; for how often I have had a glimpse of your departing figure, as you was flying into the cellar, bed-room, or stairs. How beautiful!—palpably absurd! How perfectly ridiculous!—How unbecoming American ladies! Do you think me destitute of ordinary sense that you do this? Do you suppose it will give me a greater estimate of your value? It cannot be.—

Contrast yours with the practice of your sex in the days of our ancestors—“the times that tried men's souls,” and for many years after the Revolution. Mrs. WASHINGTON, the wife of the Father of our Country, at the time her husband was occupying the Presidential Chair, and in the enjoyment of the greatest honor that America could bestow, was in the daily habit of doing all kinds of domestic work—washing, baking, knitting, and, in short, discharging all her household duties. In the house of such a woman there are real and substantial comforts—but in the house of one who is always ready to run and forsake her accustomed labor at the approach of a stranger, real happiness cannot be found. Oft-times I have entered the farmer's house, and found the girls out, well satisfied that the moment before I entered, the daughter was engaged in mopping, scrubbing, washing, or doing some similar business—when, in a few moments, out she comes with a genteel dress, and a *busting* bustle; the sight of which would, to say the least, disturb any sensible man's equanimity.

The principal object of this communication is to *shame* you out of the absurd, but common, practice of leaving your business at the approach of a stranger, or more particularly young men.

* The Author holds that the women decide the fate of society, nations, and every thing in the Moral and Political World.

For myself I can say that I never would kiss, much less marry, a lady whom I could not catch at *any* domestic business. And, to tell the truth, and expose myself, the only girl I ever *loved* I “loved best” when I saw her dressed in her blue calico frock and check apron, “into the suds” up to her elbows.

When I commenced, I thought I would mention some other bad practices of our girls, one of which is Novel reading—but Mrs. FOSTER, in the last No. of the Farmer, treated the subject so admirably that I saw it entirely unnecessary to say thing about it. Education, habit, &c. I should like to dwell upon at length, but I cannot think of taxing the patience and politeness of Mr. MOORE any further, this time—therefore, I will defer them till another time. D. L. L.

Pontiac, May, 1844.

FOR MOTHERS.—Draw your children to you by *real* kindness: let them see that you study their best interest and happiness, rather than your own comfort or convenience.—Take especial pains to make *home* the most pleasant place on earth to them. It may, perhaps, sometimes be a *tax* upon your ingenuity to do so, but you will reap a blessing from it which will more than repay you. This will effectually keep them from bad company. The memory of *home*, *sweet home*, happy early associations, and a mother's love, watchfulness and prayers, have been the talisman which has enabled many a soul to bear up and buffet in after years against the winds of adversity and the tide of temptation which have assailed them through a long life; and who shall limit the extent of a mother's influence?

MR. WIRT has the following remarks addressed to a young lady:

“If you have time for it, read authentic history, which will show you the world as it is. Do not read rapidly and superficially, with a view merely to feast on the novelty and variety of events; but deliberately and studiously, with the pen in your hand, and your notes books by your side; extracting as you go along, not only every prominent event, but every elegant and judicious reflection of the author, so as to form a little book of practical wisdom for yourself.”

ONE great secret of domestic enjoyment is too much overlooked. It lies in bringing our wants down to our circumstances, instead of toiling to bring our circumstances up to our wants. Wants will always be ahead of means, and there will be no end to the race, if you set the latter to chasing the former. Put the yoke of self-denial on desire, apply the spur of industry to energy, and if the latter does not overtake the former, it will at least keep in sight of it.

SUBSTITUTE FOR CREAM IN COFFEE.—Beat the white of an egg to a froth—put to it a small lump of butter, and turn the coffee to it gradually, so that it may not curdle. It is difficult to distinguish the taste from fresh cream.

THE MAIDEN AND THE MARINER.—A young damsel was preaching at Nantucket, and, among other profound and original truths, proclaimed to her congregation that “every tub must stand on its own bottom.” A sailor, thinking to nonplus the fair parson, rose and asked, “But suppose it has no bottom.”—“Then it's no 'tub,'” she quickly rejoined, and went on with her sermon.



1844.



LAWSON, HOWARD & CO.
FORWARDERS AND COMMISSION MFR.
CHANTS, DETROIT, MICH.

Warehouse foot of Shelby Street.

Agents for the Buffalo and Ohio Line, and New York Lake Boat Line, on the Erie Canal, in connection with Steamboats, Propellers and Vessels on the Lakes.

AGENTS.

E. W. BARNARD, { 100 Broad street, N. Y.
R. J. VANDEWATER, { J. H. MATHER. { foot State st., Albany N. Y.
W. H. VANDEWATER { Chard, Meech & Co., Buffalo, New York.

All goods and property shipped by these lines insured on the Erie Canal, and persons shipping by them can be assured of as quick despatch as by any other line. The undersigned are prepared to make contracts for the transportation of produce and merchandise by the above lines, and solicit the patronage of merchants, millers, &c.

* ALSO, will make like advances and contracts at the Ware-House of SACKETT & EVERETT, Jackson. LAWSON, HOWARD & CO., Agents. Detroit, March 25, 1844.

Fruit Trees and Shrubbery.

The Subscribers have just received, and will keep constantly on hand and for sale, a good assortment of GRAFTED FRUIT TREES, of all kinds, from the Ypsilanti Garden.

Garden Shrubbery and Flowers of all kinds, for Gardens and Door Yards, may be had at any time, by calling at their chandler's shop, north of the Railroad bridge GIBSON & RUSSEL.

Jackson, March 30, 1844.

Foster's Improved Patent Pumps.

H. & F. M. FOSTER respectfully inform the public that they continue to manufacture and keep constantly on hand, at their Machine Shop, (on the east side of Grand River, near the Rail Road Depot,) in the Village of Jackson, superior Pumps for Wells and Cisterns, made of the best materials, and warranted not to FREEZE. These Pumps have been extensively in use in the Eastern States, for 15 years, and the increasing demand for them, is evidence of the general satisfaction they have given.

Jackson, February 15, 1844.

Ploughs! Ploughs! :

The best patterns of Small and Breaking-Up Ploughs, can be found at the Jackson Steam Furnace. Jackson, April 1, 1844.

Wool Carding and Cloth Dressing.

L. R. AUSTIN & Co. are now prepared to give those farmers who may patronize them with their custom, as good work as can be done in the State.—We have two new and splendid Machines, one expressly for Merino Wool. Our Dyer is from an Eastern Factory, and will give those who wise it the French or Patent Finish.

For further particulars call at their shop in Brooklyn. L. R. AUSTIN & Co. Brooklyn, May, 1844.

Wanted,

In exchange for the “Michigan Farmer,” or in payment of subscriptions to the same,—Wheat, Corn, Rye, Barley, Oats, Potatoes, Pork, Beef, Butter, Ham, Eggs, &c. &c. &c., for which the highest market price will be allowed, if delivered soon.

Farmer Office, June 1, 1844.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

ALL persons indebted to the subscriber, either by Note or Book account, are requested to make IMMEDIATE PAYMENT—as he is himself in debt and MUST PAY. Those who pay up, at the office, previous to the first of June, will be allowed a discount of ten per cent—and all accounts not arranged previous to the first of July will be summarily disposed of.

Jackson, May 1, 1844. D. D. T. MOORE.

JOB PRINTING.

Every description of Letter Press Printing, such as Labels, Waybills, Show Bills, Road Bills, Stage Bills, Pamphlets, Handbills, Checks, Circulars, Ball Tickets, Business Cards, Catalogues, Notes, &c. &c., executed with neatness, accuracy and despatch, at the office of the Michigan Farmer, north side of the Public Square, Jackson.

BLANKS, of every description, kept constantly on hand, or printed to order.

“All orders from a distance, will receive prompt attention.

April, 1844.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A Word to Young Men.

Wishing, and sighing, and imagining, and dreaming of greatness, said William Wirt, will never make you great. But cannot a young man command his energies? Read Foster on decision of character. That book will tell you what is in your power to accomplish. You must gird up your loins and go to work with all the indomitable energy of Hannibal scaling the Alps. It is your duty to make the most of talents, time, and opportunities.

Alfred, king of England, though he performed more business than any of his subjects, found time to study.

Franklin in the midst of all his labors, found time to dive to the depths of philosophy, and explored an untrdden path of science.

Frederick the Great, with an empire at his direction, in the midst of war, and on the eve of battle, found time to revel in all the charms of philosophy, and to feast himself on the luxuries of learning.

Buonaparte, with Europe at his disposal, with kings at his ante-chamber begging for vacant thrones, and at the head of thousands of men whose destinies were suspended on his arbitrary pleasure, had time to converse with books.

And young men who are confined to labor or business even twelve hours a day, may take an hour and a half of what is left, for study; and which will amount to two months in a year.

Is that nothing? Ask Elihu Burritt. Ask Simpson, the great mathematician. Ask Herschel, the first of Astronomers. Simpson worked at the weaver's loom, and Herschel was a poor fifer boy in the army. Ask the year 1844.

Let your own experiment of what can be done in one year, settle the question, whether to acquire useful information by regular and hard study, be practicable or desirable.

It is never too late.

Ah! that I could be heard by all oppressed, dejected souls! I would cry to them—"Lift up your heads, and confide still in the future, and believe that it is never too late! See! I too was bowed down by long suffering, and old age had moreover overtaken me, and I believed that all my strength had vanished, that my life, and my sufferings were in vain—and behold! my head has again been lifted up, my heart appeased, my soul strengthened; and now, in my fiftieth year, I advance into a new future, attended by all that life has of beautiful and worthy of love.

The change in my soul has enabled me better to comprehend life and suffering, and I am now firmly convinced that there is no fruitless suffering, and that no virtuous endeavor is in vain.—Winter days and nights may bury beneath their pall of snow the sown corn; but when the spring arrives, it will be found equally true, that 'there grows much bread in the winter night.'—Miss Bremer.

STICK TO IT.—Yes, stick to your business, if it is small; it may soon increase. But if you do no more than you have for the past few months, it is much better than nothing. If you change your business every year, you will always be poor. The only way to be successful is, to engage in business, and stick to it.

IT is no honor to be rich, and no disgrace to be poor; therefore it is exceedingly foolish to strive after the appearance of wealth if we are poor, and be ashamed of the poverty which circumstances have brought upon us. This folly is a source of continual misery, and is seldom productive of any good.

THE MODEST DEPORTMENT of those who are truly wise, when contrasted with the assuming air of the ignorant may be compared to the different appearance of wheat, which, while its ear is empty, holds up its head proudly, but as soon as filled with grain, bends modestly down, and withdraws from observation.

SUMMARY.

ST. CLAIR WHEAT.—The Cambria brought a quantity of wheat to this port, on Thursday, from St. Clair. It was raised near the village of St. Clair on a farm belonging to a gentleman of this city, and it is said to be of the very best quality. We are assured that this is the first wheat that has ever been *exported* from St. Clair county.—It furnishes gratifying evidence of the growth and improvement of that county, where lumbering has so long been the leading business.—*Det. Adv.*

THE Danville (Pa.) papers say that the wheat crops in that section of country look remarkably well, and promise an abundant yield.

Mr. Ellsworth estimates the present population of the United States, at \$19,183,583.

GIVE IT UP.—The editors of the Advent Herald "frankly acknowledge the expiration of their reckoning when they expected their Lord."

GRAFTING PEARS ON THORNS.—At the Horticultural exhibition in Cincinnati, last fall, Seckle Pears were shown, $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches in circumference, from scions grafted on Hawthorn.

FATHER MATTHEW, the great apostle of Temperance, is coming to America this month (June.)

EPIDEMIC IN BOSTON.—We learn by the eastern papers that an epidemic is making fearful ravages among all classes of citizens in the 'literary Emporium.' It spares neither high nor low, rich nor poor, although it seems to rage more violently among the upper ranks of society. The epidemic seems to find no effectual cure because in the cure consists the epidemic. That is *Matrimony!*

MUTILATING shade trees and shrubbery is a penal offence in Maryland, as it should be everywhere. The person who has the disposition to commit such an act, we should suppose capable of stealing a sheep, robbing a hen-roost, or even the heinous crime of refusing to pay his Printer.

HOOKS AND EYES.—The American invention for making this little article has reduced the price from \$1 50 the gross to 20 cents. At one establishment in New Britain, Ct., 30,000 to 100,000 pairs per day are made and plated, by a galvanic battery, or what is called the cold silver process. The value of this article consumed in the United States is said to be \$750,000 annually.

RELEASE OF CANADIAN PRISONERS.—The Madisonian states that at the instance of Mr. Everett, the following persons who took part in the disturbances in Canada in 1838, have been pardoned, and will shortly return from Van Dieman's Land—Hiram Sharp, John Gillman, Ira Polly, Orrin W. Smith, Bemis Woodbury, George T. Brown, Daniel Likum, Robert Q. Collins, John Thomas, and Edward A. Wilson.

Prentice gets decidedly stuck in the following: The people of Connecticut carry their temperance principles so far as to refuse to eat pork that has been CORNED.—*Louisville Journal.*

If such be the fact, Prentice may venture back with impunity.—*Clay Banner.*

CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER.

	PAGE.
Summer Fallows, &c.	57
The Apricot—To Make Water Cold.	57
Culture of the Ruta Bagat—Roots vs. Hay—The Way to Settle Difficulties—Fruit—Green Crops.	58
Use of Salt or Brine—Bees—Accidents and Observations—Cleanliness—Timber on the Prairies—History of the Mercer Potato—Statistical.	59
Editorial Notices—The Wheat Crop—Michigan—The Wheat Crop of 1839.	60
Mr. Geddes' Harrow, with engravings—A New Map of Michigan—An Improvement—Table Butter—To destroy Bugs on Vines.	61
The Mechanic—How Discoveries have been made—How to acquire Knowledge—Artificial Marble—Discovery in Engraving—Morse's Telegraph, and other articles.	62
To Farmer's Daughters—For Mothers, &c.	63
A Word to Young Men—It is never too late—Summary—Market Intelligence, and Bank Note List.	64

Market Intelligence.

JACKSON, June 1, 1844.

GRAIN.—Wheat is firm at 56c; Kye, 31 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; Barley, 31 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; Gats are firm at 20 a 22c; Corn, 31 $\frac{1}{2}$ a 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; Grass Seed, \$1; Flax Seed, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

Flour retails at \$3 25 a \$2 50.

PROVISIONS.—Pork, mess, \$12; prime \$9. Ham, 7c; Lard, 7d; Butter, 8c; Tallow, 9c; Eggs, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ a 7c; Dried Apples, \$1; Green, \$1; Potatoes, 20c; White Beans, \$1 00; Cranberries, \$1; Onions, \$1 10.

MAPLE SUGAR 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents.

BEESWAX is worth 20 a 25 cents.

HAY—English, \$6; Catholic, 2 50 a \$3.

WOOL is worth from 22 to 30 cents.

ANN ARBOR, May 29.

Wheat sells readily at 65 cents. Oats, 20 a 25c; Corn, 34 to 37; Flour, retail, \$3 75; Clover seed, \$6 a \$6 50; Butter, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$, and but little in market; Eggs 6 a 8 cts.; Potatoes, 15 a 18 $\frac{1}{2}$. There is but little wheat in market. Flour \$3 50 per load—retail, \$3 75.—[Argus.]

PONTIAC, May 29.

Wheat, 65; Flour, \$3 50; Flax Seed, 75; Butter, 9c; Oats, 22c; Eggs, 6c; Corn, 31; Potatoes, 18; Grass Seed, \$1, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$; Lard, 7; Tallow, 10; Pork, prime, \$11.—[Gazette.]

BUFFALO, May 27.

Our supplies are large to-day, and what is most strange, wheat sustains itself well. A lot of 2,000 bushels from Michigan City sold at 88 cents. Some good Racine, per steamer Madison, brought 87 $\frac{1}{2}$ cts., and a lot of good Northern Ohio the same. A full cargo of St. Joseph, slightly smutted, 83 $\frac{1}{2}$ cts., and another invoice 84 cts. Some Cleveland wheat also brought 87 $\frac{1}{2}$ cts. 4,000 bushels Chicago brought 82 cts.; some Southern Ohio 85 cents.

Corn is dull; sales of a cargo afloat, 2,000 bushels, have been made at 41 cts. Some holders are storing rather than sell at that quotation.

Several lots of flour have been taken at prices varying from \$3 95 to \$4 00. 1,000 bbls common brand (good) Michigan, sold this morning at \$4 00. 100 bbls fair Ohio at \$4 03; and 1,000 bbls South Bend Mills Ia., on Saturday, at \$4 06. The operations are tolerably large within this range.

NEW YORK, May 27.

A^oHES—Pots continue very dull at \$4 31 $\frac{1}{2}$. Pearls have slightly receded. We now quote \$4 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ a \$4 75.

BEESWAX—We quote southern yellow at 30c, and northern do. at 30 $\frac{1}{2}$.

BREADSTUFFS—We quote Genesee flour at \$4 75; Ohio, round hoop, \$4 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ a \$4 75; Michigan, \$4 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ a 4 68 $\frac{1}{2}$; Georgetown, \$4 87 $\frac{1}{2}$; Richmond City Mills, \$4 50. There is less demand to-day. Illinois wheat has been sold at \$1 10. Rye 69c a 70c; southern corn 45c, Jersey yellow 50c; Oats, 32 a 32 $\frac{1}{2}$. Corn is quite plenty, but Rye is not. Oats are in fair demand.

BANK NOTE LIST.

[CORRECTED FOR THE MICHIGAN FARMER.]

MICHIGAN.	
F & M B'k & Branch	par
Bank of St. Clair	par
Mich Insurance Co	par
Oakland County Bank	par
River Raisin Bank	par
Mer B'k Jackson Co	70 dis
Bank of Michigan	70 dis
State Scrip	4 a 5 dis
State Warrants	50 dis
OHIO,	
Specie paying banks	par
Cleveland	55 dis
Far bank Canton	60 dis
Granville	75 dis
Hamilton	25 dis
Lancaster	30 dis
Mer & Trade's Cin	15 dis
Manhattan	90 dis
Miami & xp Com	60 dis
Urbana bank's Com	60 dis
STATE,	
State bank & bran	1 dis
State Scrip	30 dis
ILLINOIS,	
State bank	50 dis
Shawneetown	60 dis
KENTUCKY.	
All good banks	2 dis
PENNSYLVANIA.	
Specie paying	1 dis
Erie	3 dis
Relief Notes	10 dis
MISSOURI.	
State bank	2 dis
CANADA.	
Fire & Marine Insurance Co.	Checks 1 dis
WISCONSIN.	
State bank	par